



Transportation Advisory Committee Important Action Summary

March 26, 2014, 2:00 pm
2nd floor, Greensboro Council Chambers
300 W. Washington Street

Action Items

1. **Conflict of Interest Policy Statement**
2. **Minutes of February 26, 2014:** *The TAC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2014 meeting.*
3. **Reports, Concerns, and Discussion from MPO Area Towns:** There were none.
4. **Public Comments:**
 - Claire Stone, Greensboro resident, noted support for providing additional STP-DA funds to GTA to prevent possible service reductions and fare increases.
 - Anita Cunningham, Greensboro resident, noted the importance of the GTA transit system to individuals that rely on public transportation for commuting to work, and raised concern that reduced services and increased fares will create substantial hardship for economically vulnerable members of the community.

Business Items

Review *GTA Steering Committee for Proposed Service and Fare Policy Changes* Findings & Federal Funding Options:

- Council Member Sharon Hightower spoke on behalf of the GTA Steering Committee for Proposed Service and Fare Policy Changes. This committee is seeking to manage the impact of an estimated annual funding gap of approximately \$2.5 million.
- George Linney, GTA Staff, reviewed the proposals discussed by the Committee, including service changes, and incremental fare.
- Adam Fischer said staff had a proposal that if enacted by TAC might enable GTA to avoid the need for an incremental fare increase over the next few years.
- Tyler Meyer reviewed additional background information on the very substantial growth of GTA ridership and services over the last ten years and the role that MPO funding played in helping the system become what it is today. Meyer noted staff recommendations include shifting funds from the cancelled project U-5523 Florida Street to support GTA preventive maintenance costs over a three year period; also providing three years of CMAQ funding support so that PART can replace GTA's Career Express Service with a new and improved service. Doing this would reduce sidewalk funding availability, but at a pace that could be considered manageable given sidewalk project development delays.
- Sharon Hightower noted her support for reallocating only one payment of \$853,000 from the STP-DA funds at this time, stating the remaining funds should support a proposed sidewalk project on Lee Street. Other TAC members of the Committee indicated they had also been expecting the STP-DA recommendation to cover a one year period not three. Also TAC members noted strong support for sidewalk construction and requested that MPO staff consider alternatives or reductions to the amount of recommended support.

Planning for the transportation future

- Staff will further review and develop the recommendations for discussion and possible action at the April meeting. At that meeting more information will be provided on the tradeoffs involved in these project decisions.

Project Updates:

- The first public workshop was held on Monday, March 26th for the EB-5518 Latham Park Greenway. Attendance was good, and all comments received were supportive of the project.
- The first public workshop for the U-5532 Aycock Street and Walker Avenue Pedestrian Safety Improvement project will be held April 14th.
- The initial public involvement period for the MPO's prioritization methodology has begun.
- MPO staff is reviewing a three phase enhancement for the Travel Demand Model which includes 2010 Census data and refined freight analysis. The TAC will be asked to endorse these changes at the next meeting.

Strategic Reports:

- A resolution was presented and the TAC voted unanimously to endorse Greensboro's Watch for Me NC application.
- *A reminder was given that TAC members and their alternates are responsible to file both a 2014 Statement of Economic Interest (SEI) and a 2014 Real Estate Disclosure Form with the State Ethics Commission by April 15th.*

Other Items

1. **Board Member Update:** Bids for the PTIA Taxiway Bridge open on Thursday, March 27th and the project will be on the Board's April agenda. The proposed let date for the Eastern Urban Loop from US 29 to US 70 has been shifted from the middle of May to the middle of June due to extra time needed to resolve a railroad crossing design issue. The two remaining pieces of the loop are subject to reprioritization. It is expected that their preliminary scores will be released along with the scores for other preexisting projects on Monday, March 31st.
2. **Regional Updates:** There were none.
3. **Wrap-Up**